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CASE 4-38724A

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1614

KRIWET ET AL.

Examiner: Vickie Kim

APPLICATION NO: 09/871,367

FILED: MAY 31, 2001

FOR: TOPICAL COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING ASCOMYCINS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated August 29, 2001.

Kindly amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

14. (amended) A composition for topical administration of an ascomycin for treatment of skin disorders which composition comprises a carrier vehicle comprising
- (i) means to retain water in the outer skin layer comprising a urea, an inorganic salt, or a carboxylic acid, wherein said carboxylic acid is a carboxylic acid or derivative thereof selected from the group consisting of a cyclic carboxylic acid or salt thereof; lactic acid; glycolic acid; lactic acid sodium and/or ammonium salt; glycolic acid sodium and/or ammonium salt; lactamide; lactamidopropyl-triammonium chloride; and sodium cocoyl lactylate, and
 - (ii) means to hinder water evaporating from the skin.

Add new claims 39-41 as follows:

- 39. (new) A composition according to claim 14 wherein said cyclic carboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of 2-pyrrolidone-5-carboxylate; 2-pyrrolidone-5-carboxylate sodium and/or

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